

PATENT COOPERATION TREATY

PCT

From the INTERNATIONAL BUREAU

NOTIFICATION OF THE RECORDING
OF A CHANGE(PCT Rule 92bis.1 and
Administrative Instructions, Section 422)

To:

GILL JENNINGS & EVERY
Broadgate House
7 Eldon Street
London EC2M 7LH
ROYAUME-UNI

Date of mailing (day/month/year) 20 September 2001 (20.09.01)	IMPORTANT NOTIFICATION
Applicant's or agent's file reference REP06035WO	
International application No. PCT/GB00/00630	International filing date (day/month/year) 22 February 2000 (22.02.00)

1. The following indications appeared on record concerning:		
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> the applicant	<input type="checkbox"/> the inventor	<input type="checkbox"/> the agent
<input type="checkbox"/> the common representative		
Name and Address QUADRANT HOLDINGS CAMBRIDGE LIMITED 1 Mere Way Ruddington Nottingham NG11 6JS United Kingdom	State of Nationality GB	State of Residence GB
	Telephone No.	
	Facsimile No.	
	Teleprinter No.	
2. The International Bureau hereby notifies the applicant that the following change has been recorded concerning:		
<input type="checkbox"/> the person	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> the name	<input type="checkbox"/> the address
<input type="checkbox"/> the nationality		
<input type="checkbox"/> the residence		
Name and Address QUADRANT HEALTHCARE (UK) LIMITED 1 Mere Way Ruddington Nottingham NG11 6JS United Kingdom	State of Nationality GB	State of Residence GB
	Telephone No.	
	Facsimile No.	
	Teleprinter No.	
3. Further observations, if necessary:		
4. A copy of this notification has been sent to:		
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> the receiving Office	<input type="checkbox"/> the designated Offices concerned	
<input type="checkbox"/> the International Searching Authority	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> the elected Offices concerned	
<input type="checkbox"/> the International Preliminary Examining Authority	<input type="checkbox"/> other:	

The International Bureau of WIPO 34, chemin des Colombettes 1211 Geneva 20, Switzerland	Authorized officer Dominique DELMAS
Facsimile No.: (41-22) 740.14.35	Telephone No.: (41-22) 338.83.38

PATENT COOPERATION TREATY

PCT

From the INTERNATIONAL BUREAU

NOTIFICATION OF THE RECORDING
OF A CHANGE(PCT Rule 92bis.1 and
Administrative Instructions, Section 422)

To:

GILL JENNINGS & EVERY
Broadgate House
7 Eldon Street
London EC2M 7LH
ROYAUME-UNI

Date of mailing (day/month/year) 20 September 2001 (20.09.01)	IMPORTANT NOTIFICATION
Applicant's or agent's file reference REP06035WO	
International application No. PCT/GB00/00630	International filing date (day/month/year) 22 February 2000 (22.02.00)

1. The following indications appeared on record concerning:

☒ the applicant

 ☐ the inventor

 ☐ the agent

 ☐ the common representative

Name and Address QUADRANT HOLDINGS CAMBRIDGE LIMITED 1 Mere Way Ruddington Nottingham NG11 6JS United Kingdom	State of Nationality GB	State of Residence GB
	Telephone No.	
	Facsimile No.	
	Teleprinter No.	

2. The International Bureau hereby notifies the applicant that the following change has been recorded concerning:

☐ the person

 ☒ the name

 ☐ the address

 ☐ the nationality

 ☐ the residence

Name and Address QUADRANT HEALTHCARE (UK) LIMITED 1 Mere Way Ruddington Nottingham NG11 6JS United Kingdom	State of Nationality GB	State of Residence GB
	Telephone No.	
	Facsimile No.	
	Teleprinter No.	

3. Further observations, if necessary:

4. A copy of this notification has been sent to:

<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> the receiving Office	<input type="checkbox"/> the designated Offices concerned
<input type="checkbox"/> the International Searching Authority	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> the elected Offices concerned
<input type="checkbox"/> the International Preliminary Examining Authority	<input type="checkbox"/> other:

The International Bureau of WIPO 34, chemin des Colombettes 1211 Geneva 20, Switzerland Facsimile No.: (41-22) 740.14.35	Authorized officer Dominique DELMAS Telephone No.: (41-22) 338.83.38
--	---

PATENT COOPERATION TREATY

PCT

NOTIFICATION OF ELECTION

(PCT Rule 61.2)

From the INTERNATIONAL BUREAU

To:

Assistant Commissioner for Patents
 United States Patent and Trademark
 Office
 Box PCT
 Washington, D.C. 20231
 ETATS-UNIS D'AMERIQUE

in its capacity as elected Office

Date of mailing (day/month/year) 13 October 2000 (13.10.00)	
International application No. PCT/GB00/00630	Applicant's or agent's file reference REP06035WO
International filing date (day/month/year) 22 February 2000 (22.02.00)	Priority date (day/month/year) 22 February 1999 (22.02.99)
Applicant MARTYN, Glen, Patrick et al	

1. The designated Office is hereby notified of its election made:

☒ in the demand filed with the International Preliminary Examining Authority on:

14 September 2000 (14.09.00)

☐ in a notice effecting later election filed with the International Bureau on:2. The election ☒ was☐ was not

made before the expiration of 19 months from the priority date or, where Rule 32 applies, within the time limit under Rule 32.2(b).

The International Bureau of WIPO 34, chemin des Colombettes 1211 Geneva 20, Switzerland Facsimile No.: (41-22) 740.14.35	Authorized officer Zakaria EL KHODARY Telephone No.: (41-22) 338.83.38
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PCT

NOTIFICATION OF ELECTION

(PCT Rule 61.2)

From the INTERNATIONAL BUREAU

To:

Assistant Commissioner for Patents
United States Patent and Trademark
Office
Box PCT
Washington, D.C.20231
ETATS-UNIS D'AMERIQUE

in its capacity as elected Office

Date of mailing (day/month/year)

16 October 2000 (16.10.00)

International application No.

PCT/GB00/00630

Applicant's or agent's file reference

REP06035WO

International filing date (day/month/year)

22 February 2000 (22.02.00)

Priority date (day/month/year)

22 February 1999 (22.02.99)

Applicant

MARTYN, Glen, Patrick et al

1. The designated Office is hereby notified of its election made:



in the demand filed with the International Preliminary Examining Authority on:

14 September 2000 (14.09.00)



in a notice effecting later election filed with the International Bureau on:

2. The election ☒ was



was not

made before the expiration of 19 months from the priority date or, where Rule 32 applies, within the time limit under Rule 32.2(b).

The International Bureau of WIPO
34, chemin des Colombettes
1211 Geneva 20, Switzerland

Facsimile No.: (41-22) 740.14.35

Form PCT/IB/331 (July 1992)

Authorized officer

Zakaria EL KHODARY

Telephone No.: (41-22) 338.83.38

GB0000630

PCT



WIPO

PCT

INTERNATIONAL PRELIMINARY EXAMINATION REPORT

(PCT Article 36 and Rule 70)

14

Applicant's or agent's file reference REP06035WO		FOR FURTHER ACTION See Notification of Transmittal of International Preliminary Examination Report (Form PCT/IPEA/416)	
International application No. PCT/GB00/00630	International filing date (day/month/year) 22/02/2000	Priority date (day/month/year) 22/02/1999	
International Patent Classification (IPC) or national classification and IPC A61K9/20			
Applicant QUADRANT HOLDINGS CAMBRIDGE LIMITED et al.			
<p>1. This international preliminary examination report has been prepared by this International Preliminary Examining Authority and is transmitted to the applicant according to Article 36.</p> <p>2. This REPORT consists of a total of 9 sheets, including this cover sheet.</p> <p><input checked="" type="checkbox"/> This report is also accompanied by ANNEXES, i.e. sheets of the description, claims and/or drawings which have been amended and are the basis for this report and/or sheets containing rectifications made before this Authority (see Rule 70.16 and Section 607 of the Administrative Instructions under the PCT).</p> <p>These annexes consist of a total of 1 sheets.</p>			
<p>3. This report contains indications relating to the following items:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">I <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Basis of the reportII <input type="checkbox"/> PriorityIII <input type="checkbox"/> Non-establishment of opinion with regard to novelty, inventive step and industrial applicabilityIV <input type="checkbox"/> Lack of unity of inventionV <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Reasoned statement under Article 35(2) with regard to novelty, inventive step or industrial applicability; citations and explanations supporting such statementVI <input type="checkbox"/> Certain documents citedVII <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Certain defects in the international applicationVIII <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Certain observations on the international application			
Date of submission of the demand 14/09/2000		Date of completion of this report 25.05.2001	
Name and mailing address of the international preliminary examining authority:  European Patent Office D-80298 Munich Tel. +49 89 2399 - 0 Tx: 523656 epmu d Fax: +49 89 2399 - 4465		Authorized officer Haus, R Telephone No. +49 89 2399 8056 	

**INTERNATIONAL PRELIMINARY
EXAMINATION REPORT**

International application No. PCT/GB00/00630

I. Basis of the report

1. With regard to the **elements** of the international application (*Replacement sheets which have been furnished to the receiving Office in response to an invitation under Article 14 are referred to in this report as "originally filed" and are not annexed to this report since they do not contain amendments (Rules 70.16 and 70.17)*):

Description, pages:

1-10 as originally filed

Claims, No.:

1-10 as originally filed

11 as received on 16/03/2001 with letter of 15/03/2001

2. With regard to the **language**, all the elements marked above were available or furnished to this Authority in the language in which the international application was filed, unless otherwise indicated under this item.

These elements were available or furnished to this Authority in the following language: , which is:

- ☐ the language of a translation furnished for the purposes of the international search (under Rule 23.1(b)).
- ☐ the language of publication of the international application (under Rule 48.3(b)).
- ☐ the language of a translation furnished for the purposes of international preliminary examination (under Rule 55.2 and/or 55.3).

3. With regard to any **nucleotide and/or amino acid sequence** disclosed in the international application, the international preliminary examination was carried out on the basis of the sequence listing:

- ☐ contained in the international application in written form.
- ☐ filed together with the international application in computer readable form.
- ☐ furnished subsequently to this Authority in written form.
- ☐ furnished subsequently to this Authority in computer readable form.
- ☐ The statement that the subsequently furnished written sequence listing does not go beyond the disclosure in the international application as filed has been furnished.
- ☐ The statement that the information recorded in computer readable form is identical to the written sequence listing has been furnished.

4. The amendments have resulted in the cancellation of:

- ☐ the description, pages:
- ☐ the claims, Nos.:
- ☐ the drawings, sheets:

INTERNATIONAL PRELIMINARY EXAMINATION REPORT

International application No. PCT/GB00/00630

5. ☒ This report has been established as if (some of) the amendments had not been made, since they have been considered to go beyond the disclosure as filed (Rule 70.2(c)):

(Any replacement sheet containing such amendments must be referred to under item 1 and annexed to this report.)

see separate sheet

6. Additional observations, if necessary:

V. Reasoned statement under Article 35(2) with regard to novelty, inventive step or industrial applicability; citations and explanations supporting such statement

1. Statement

Novelty (N)	Yes:	Claims	
	No:	Claims	1-10
Inventive step (IS)	Yes:	Claims	
	No:	Claims	1-10
Industrial applicability (IA)	Yes:	Claims	1-10
	No:	Claims	

2. Citations and explanations

see separate sheet

VII. Certain defects in the international application

The following defects in the form or contents of the international application have been noted:
see separate sheet

VIII. Certain observations on the international application

The following observations on the clarity of the claims, description, and drawings or on the question whether the claims are fully supported by the description, are made:
see separate sheet

Re Item I

Basis of the opinion

1. This report has been established on the basis of original claims 1-10. The amendment (new claim 11) filed with the letter dated 15.03.2001 was not taken into account as it introduces subject-matter which extends beyond the content of the application as filed, contrary to Article 34(2)(b) PCT.

The passage concerned is the following:

"a composition ... in the form of a shaped body that is rapidly soluble in water"

From the content of the application as filed, it is clear that the carbohydrate matrix or vehicle is rapidly soluble in an aqueous liquid (cf. cl. 1; p. 3, ll. 14-23; p. 3, l. 35 - p. 4, l. 4; cf. Section VIII.7 below). However, it cannot be directly derived from the text of the application as filed that the therapeutic agent, which according to claim 11 is also part of the composition, has to be hydrophilic as well (see, for instance, p. 5, l. 10 - p. 7, l. 36, and ex. 3 which was carried out using a model hydrophobic active), so that it is not implicitly evident that the whole of the composition should be soluble in the aqueous liquid, or even more specifically, in water.

The original application does not, in fact, appear to contain a general, unambiguously derivable disclosure of the combination of features as defined in new claim 11, i.e., a composition in the form of a shaped body comprising a therapeutic agent in a pullulan matrix, with the composition as a whole being rapidly soluble in water.

For the purposes of Article 34(2)(b) PCT, a specific example such as example 2 can only provide partial support, but it does not cover the entire scope of the more generally worded claim 11. Thus, there is no support in the application as filed for compositions meeting the definition of claim 11 but not covered by example 2.

2. Combining the subject-matter of claims 3 and 7 and additionally introducing the essential feature that the matrix is soluble in an aqueous solvent (see Section VIII.7 below) would, in fact, be a permissible amendment in accordance with Article 34(2)(b) PCT. It should however be noted that said subject-matter is anticipated by document D5 which discloses rapidly-dissolving tablets comprising a drug active, water-soluble binder and water-soluble filler, wherein the binder may be pullulan (Article 33(2) PCT).

Re Item V

Reasoned statement under Article 35(2) with regard to novelty, inventive step or industrial applicability; citations and explanations supporting such statement

3. Reference is made to the following documents:

D1: WO-A-96 40077

D3: US-A-5 762 961

D2: WO-A-91 09591

D4: US-A-5 064 057

D5: CHEMICAL ABSTRACTS, vol. 126, no. 6, 10.02.1997 Columbus, Ohio, US; abstract no. 79933, TATARA, MITSUTOSHI ET AL: 'Method for manufacturing fast dissolving tablets' XP002138637 & DATABASE WPI Week 9718 Derwent Publications Ltd., London, GB; AN 1997-196011 'Rapidly-dissolving tablets production' & JP-A-08 291051

4. The present application does not meet the requirements of Article 33(1) PCT, because the subject-matter of claims 1-10 is not new in the sense of Article 33(2) PCT, for the following reasons:

4.1 Document D1 discloses foamed glass matrices which may incorporate a biological active, wherein the glass-matrix forming material is preferably a carbohydrate, which may be a polymer such as hydroxyethyl starch or dextran (D1: p. 1, par. 1; p. 3, ll. 12-22; p. 7, ll. 3-17).

In example 5, D1 discloses compositions in the form of foamed glass matrices, comprising erythrocytes, hydroxyethyl starch and trehalose. The product, which rehydrates rapidly on reconstitution, was obtained by the removal of solvent, by drying, from a homogenous aqueous (PBS) solution/ suspension of the components, the liquid being provided in single dosage aliquots in pharmaceutical vials (D1: ex. 5d, p. 27, ll. 6-18).

In claim 6, D1 discloses a method of producing foamed glass matrices comprising the steps of: preparing an initial mixture comprising dextran as a glass-matrix forming material and at least one solvent, evaporating bulk solvent from the mixture to obtain a viscous syrup, and exposing the syrup to a pressure and temperature sufficient to cause boiling of the syrup (D1: cl. 6).

D1 is thus prejudicial to the novelty of claims 1 (ex. 5d, cl. 6) and 2, 4-7, 9-10 (ex. 5d).

- 4.2 Document D2 discloses matrix compositions which disintegrate rapidly within 1 to 5 seconds when taken orally, and comprise a polysaccharide, mannitol and aspartame. They are obtained by preparing an aqueous solution or dispersion of the components which is transferred into moulds having cylindrical depressions. The solvent is removed by freezing the contents of the moulds and dissolving the frozen water in ethanol. Residual ethanol is removed from the product in a vacuum chamber (D2: examples 19-21, 23-24, 26-30, 34).

The cited document thus anticipates the subject-matter of present claims 1, 4, 6, 8, and 9-10.

Pharmaceutical agents and other actives may be incorporated into the compositions of D2 (D2: p. 8, ll. 1-10; p. 4, l. 29 - p. 6, l. 3).

- 4.3 Document D3 discloses rapidly soluble compositions in the form of tablets comprising starch or hydroxyethyl starch as a binder (D3: cl. 7).

More specifically, D3 discloses rapidly soluble tablets comprising an antimicrobial peptide, trehalose, magnesium stearate, and hydroxyethyl starch as a binder (D3: ex. 1, samples 7-8). The tablets are produced by dry tableting a mixture of the components with ammonium bicarbonate, and subjecting the resulting product to a vacuum in order to remove the volatile salt. This process yields porous, fast-dissolving tablets.

Hence, D3 destroys the novelty of present claims 1-2 and 4-8.

- 4.4 Document D4 discloses compositions in the form of a shaped support for anastomosing or connecting tubular organs in a living body, produced from a material selected from monosaccharides, oligosaccharides, polysaccharides, mixtures thereof, or polyvinyl pyrrolidone (D4: col. 2, ll. 23-27). Said support is rapidly soluble in water and in body fluids (D4: col. 1, ll. 9-16; ll. 49-56).

a) In the case of using polysaccharides as the starting material, desired moulding can be accomplished by forming a syrup-like material with water, followed by casting and drying, or by coagulating such a syrup-like material in a non-aqueous solvent (col. 3, ll. 53-58).

b) In the claims as well as in example 1, D4 discloses supports consisting essentially of a mixture of a monosaccharide and a polysaccharide, wherein said

mixture dissolves in the living body in less than 10 minutes but more than a couple of minutes.

The above disclosure is prejudicial to the novelty of claims 1, 2 (b/ex.1), 4-6 (b/ex.1), and 9 (a).

- 4.5 D5 discloses rapidly-dissolving tablets comprising an active ingredient, a water-soluble binder, and a water-soluble filler. The binder may be pullulan, agar, sodium alginate, methylcellulose, hydroxypropyl cellulose or hydroxypropyl methylcellulose. The filler is a sugar alcohol and/or a sugar. The tablets are obtained by tableting the dry ingredients with minimum pressure, humidifying the resulting tablets - particularly their surface -, and subsequent drying (D5: WPI abstract).

D5 thus anticipates the subject-matter of present claims 1, 3-4, and 6-8.

- 4.6 With regard to the assessment of novelty (4.1-4.5), it should be noted that present claims 9-10 define products in terms of a process of manufacture. In claims of this type the claimed product has to be novel in itself; it is not rendered novel merely by the fact that it is produced by means of a new process. Where there was no evidence to show that a previously disclosed product actually differs in its properties from the products of claims 9 and/or 10, said previously disclosed product was regarded as novelty-destroying. With regard to the wording of claim 10 it should also be noted that the removal of solvent may comprise additional steps apart from freeze-drying, so that the properties of the resulting product are not clearly defined.

Re Item VII

Certain defects in the international application

5. The word "sugar" in line 15 of page 3: "The present invention encompasses methods of making rapidly-soluble matrices of sugar (of which pullulan is an example)...", appears to be an obvious error requiring correction (Rule 91.1 a)-b)) PCT).

Re Item VIII

Certain observations on the international application

6. Independent claim 1 is not sufficiently supported by the description as required by Article 6 PCT, as its scope is broader than justified by the description and the contribution to the art. The reasons therefor are the following:
 - 6.1 The expression "a composition in the form of a shaped body" has a very broad scope, since the wording of claim 1 does not contain any reference to the technical field concerned, nor, for instance, any limitations as to size, or possible ingredients apart from the carbohydrate polymer.
 - 6.2 Although the description mentions several other possible fields of application for the present composition (p. 4, ll. 17-19; p. 5, ll. 14-15), the technical disclosure is in fact limited to the pharmaceutical field and concerns delivery vehicles for the delivery of bioactive or therapeutical agents to humans or animals (p. 1, ll. 3-8; p. 2, ll. 27-30; p. 3, ll. 14-23; p. 3, l. 33 - p. 4, l. 11; p. 5, l. 15 - p. 7, l. 36; examples). The envisaged pharmaceutical application also implies certain limitations as to permissible ingredients, solubility characteristics, and dimensions of the shaped bodies. Thus, the supporting disclosure in the description actually covers only a small part of the scope of claim 1.
 - 6.3 Although the description provides support for the use of hydroxyethyl starch and pullulan as the matrix-forming carbohydrate polymer (cf. p. 2, l. 27 - p. 3, l. 12, and ex. 1-3), it also appears from the description (p. 2, ll. 31-35) that most carbohydrate polymers are in fact not suitable for providing a product with satisfactory properties.
 - 6.4 Thus, the scope of claim 1 goes beyond what is supported by the description and is regarded as an unduly broad generalization.
7. It is clear from the description (p. 1, ll. 3-8; p. 3, ll. 14-23; p. 3, l. 33 - p. 4, l. 4) that the following features are essential to the definition of the invention:
 - (1) The claimed compositions are intended for use as delivery vehicles for active substances, and therefore have to contain an active substance.
 - (2) The solvent is aqueous.

Since independent claim 1 does not contain these features it does not meet the requirement following from Article 6 PCT taken in combination with Rule 6.3(b) PCT that any independent claim must contain all the technical features essential to the definition of the invention.

8. The definition of the subject-matter of claim 1 is unclear (Article 6 PCT), for the following reasons:

8.1 The relative term "rapidly soluble" used in claim 1 has no well-recognised meaning and leaves the reader in doubt as to its technical scope, particularly as no solvent is specified in this context.

By employing the functional expression "rapidly soluble", the claim further attempts to define the subject-matter in terms of the result to be achieved which merely amounts to a statement of the underlying problem. Said functional statement does not enable the skilled person to determine which technical features are necessary to obtain the desired technical effect.

8.2 The meaning of the term "open matrix" is not evident from the wording of claim 1.

9. With regard to claim 9 ("a solution") and p. 3, ll. 24-32 of the description, there is some unclarity concerning the question whether all the components have to be soluble in the solvent which is used in the process of manufacture (Article 6 PCT).

PATENT COOPERATION TREATY

PCT

INTERNATIONAL SEARCH REPORT

(PCT Article 18 and Rules 43 and 44)

Applicant's or agent's file reference REP06035W0	FOR FURTHER ACTION see Notification of Transmittal of International Search Report (Form PCT/ISA/220) as well as, where applicable, item 5 below.	
International application No. PCT/GB 00/ 00630	International filing date (day/month/year) 22/02/2000	(Earliest) Priority Date (day/month/year) 22/02/1999
Applicant QUADRANT HOLDINGS CAMBRIDGE LIMITED et al.		

This International Search Report has been prepared by this International Searching Authority and is transmitted to the applicant according to Article 18. A copy is being transmitted to the International Bureau.

This International Search Report consists of a total of 3 sheets.



It is also accompanied by a copy of each prior art document cited in this report.

1. Basis of the report

- a. With regard to the language, the international search was carried out on the basis of the international application in the language in which it was filed, unless otherwise indicated under this item.



the international search was carried out on the basis of a translation of the international application furnished to this Authority (Rule 23.1(b)).

- b. With regard to any nucleotide and/or amino acid sequence disclosed in the international application, the international search was carried out on the basis of the sequence listing:



contained in the international application in written form.



filed together with the international application in computer readable form.



furnished subsequently to this Authority in written form.



furnished subsequently to this Authority in computer readable form.



the statement that the subsequently furnished written sequence listing does not go beyond the disclosure in the international application as filed has been furnished.



the statement that the information recorded in computer readable form is identical to the written sequence listing has been furnished

2. ☐ Certain claims were found unsearchable (See Box I).

3. ☐ Unity of invention is lacking (see Box II).

4. With regard to the title,



the text is approved as submitted by the applicant.



the text has been established by this Authority to read as follows:

5. With regard to the abstract,



the text is approved as submitted by the applicant.



the text has been established, according to Rule 38.2(b), by this Authority as it appears in Box III. The applicant may, within one month from the date of mailing of this international search report, submit comments to this Authority.

6. The figure of the drawings to be published with the abstract is Figure No.



as suggested by the applicant.



because the applicant failed to suggest a figure.



because this figure better characterizes the invention.



None of the figures.

INTERNATIONAL SEARCH REPORT

International Application No

T/GB 00/00630

A. CLASSIFICATION OF SUBJECT MATTER
IPC 7 A61K9/20

According to International Patent Classification (IPC) or to both national classification and IPC

B. FIELDS SEARCHED

Minimum documentation searched (classification system followed by classification symbols)

IPC 7 A61K

Documentation searched other than minimum documentation to the extent that such documents are included in the fields searched

Electronic data base consulted during the International search (name of data base and, where practical, search terms used)

C. DOCUMENTS CONSIDERED TO BE RELEVANT

Category *	Citation of document, with indication, where appropriate, of the relevant passages	Relevant to claim No.
X	WO 96 40077 A (GRIBBON ENDA MARTIN ;QUADRANT HOLDINGS CAMBRIDGE (GB); ROSER BRUCE) 19 December 1996 (1996-12-19) page 3, line 12 - line 22 page 4, line 22 - line 26 figure 2 page 7, line 3 - line 17 page 27, line 6 - line 18 claim 1 ---	1,2,4-9
X	WO 91 09591 A (MEDIVENTURES INC) 11 July 1991 (1991-07-11) page 7, line 1 -page 8, line 41 page 34 -page 45; examples 19-30 claims 1-4 --- -/--	1,4-10

☒ Further documents are listed in the continuation of box C.☒ Patent family members are listed in annex.

* Special categories of cited documents :

"A" document defining the general state of the art which is not considered to be of particular relevance

"E" earlier document but published on or after the international filing date

"L" document which may throw doubts on priority claim(s) or which is cited to establish the publication date of another citation or other special reason (as specified)

"O" document referring to an oral disclosure, use, exhibition or other means

"P" document published prior to the international filing date but later than the priority date claimed

"T" later document published after the international filing date or priority date and not in conflict with the application but cited to understand the principle or theory underlying the invention

"X" document of particular relevance; the claimed invention cannot be considered novel or cannot be considered to involve an inventive step when the document is taken alone

"Y" document of particular relevance; the claimed invention cannot be considered to involve an inventive step when the document is combined with one or more other such documents, such combination being obvious to a person skilled in the art.

"&" document member of the same patent family

Date of the actual completion of the international search

24 May 2000

Date of mailing of the international search report

14/06/2000

Name and mailing address of the ISA

European Patent Office, P.B. 5818 Patentlaan 2
NL - 2280 HV Rijswijk
Tel. (+31-70) 340-2040, Tx. 31 651 epo nl,
Fax: (+31-70) 340-3016

Authorized officer

Muller, S

INTERNATIONAL SEARCH REPORT

International Application No

T/GB 00/00630

C.(Continuation) DOCUMENTS CONSIDERED TO BE RELEVANT

Category *	Citation of document, with indication, where appropriate, of the relevant passages	Relevant to claim No.
X	US 5 762 961 A (ROSER BRUCE J ET AL) 9 June 1998 (1998-06-09) column 3, line 65 -column 4, line 29 column 7, line 13 - line 35 column 8, line 56 -column 10, line 31; example 1 claims 1,4,7,10 ---	1,2,4-8
X	US 5 064 057 A (IWATSUKI MAKOTO ET AL) 12 November 1991 (1991-11-12) the whole document ---	1,2,4-6, 8,9
X	CHEMICAL ABSTRACTS, vol. 126, no. 6, 10 February 1997 (1997-02-10) Columbus, Ohio, US; abstract no. 79933, TATARA, MITSUTOSHI ET AL: "Method for manufacturing fast dissolving tablets" XP002138637 abstract & DATABASE WPI Week 9718 Derwent Publications Ltd., London, GB; AN 1997-196011 "Rapidly-dissolving tablets production" & JP 08 291051 A (SATO SEIYAKU KK), 5 November 1996 (1996-11-05) abstract -----	1,3-9
X		1,3-9

INTERNATIONAL SEARCH REPORT

Information on patent family members

International Application No

T/GB 00/00630

Patent document cited in search report		Publication date	Patent family member(s)	Publication date
WO 9640077	A	19-12-1996	AU 713599 B	09-12-1999
			AU 6009896 A	30-12-1996
			BR 9609188 A	11-05-1999
			CA 2223438 A	19-12-1996
			CN 1193908 A	23-09-1998
			CZ 9703912 A	13-05-1998
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